Cervical Screening Programme
Annual Statistics Report 2017

Surveillance and Epidemiology Branch
Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health
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**Abbreviations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASC-H</td>
<td>Atypical Squamous Cells - cannot exclude High grade lesions</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASCUS</td>
<td>Atypical Squamous Cells of Undetermined Significance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSIS</td>
<td>Cervical Screening Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSP</td>
<td>Cervical Screening Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSIL</td>
<td>High-grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSIL</td>
<td>Low-grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

The Cervical Screening Programme (CSP) of Department of Health was launched on 8 March 2004 to encourage women aged 25-64 who ever had sex to have regular cervical cancer screening. The cervical smear records were stored in the Cervical Screening Information System (CSIS) for retrieval of information by registered women and their healthcare providers. The following statistics were compiled from the CSIS.
1. Number of women aged 25-64 registered with Cervical Screening Programme (excluding registered deaths)

Up to 31 December 2017, after excluding registered deaths, there were 526,379 women registered with CSP aged 25-64 (Table 1). The number of registered women in 2017 was increased by 13,809 when compared with 2016.

The proportion of women registered with CSP among Hong Kong female population aged 25-64 increased from 3.6% in 2004 to 20.5% in 2017 (Figure 1).

![Figure 1. Proportion of women registered with Cervical Screening Programme among female population aged 25-64 in 2004 - 2017](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of registered women aged 25-64</td>
<td>77,478</td>
<td>175,674</td>
<td>247,086</td>
<td>296,091</td>
<td>330,372</td>
<td>366,768</td>
<td>390,900</td>
<td>416,841</td>
<td>438,962</td>
<td>460,447</td>
<td>479,332</td>
<td>497,297</td>
<td>512,570</td>
<td>526,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female population aged 25-64 ('000)</td>
<td>2,134.1</td>
<td>2,170.6</td>
<td>2,212.2</td>
<td>2,260.0</td>
<td>2,308.2</td>
<td>2,345.0</td>
<td>2,392.2</td>
<td>2,431.9</td>
<td>2,470.6</td>
<td>2,490.7</td>
<td>2,513.5</td>
<td>2,530.0</td>
<td>2,549.6</td>
<td>2,566.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes:
1. Total number of women registered with CSP refers to the number of approved accounts in the CSIS, excluding those registered deaths, women aged below 25 and 65 or above as at the end of the respective year.
2. The female population figures refer to the mid-year population estimates released by the Census and Statistics Department in February 2018.
3. Figures may be different from the corresponding data in preceding reports due to updates in CSIS data.
2. Number of women registered with Cervical Screening Programme by age group as at 31 December 2017

When comparing the proportions of registered women in respective age groups among the female population (Figure 2 and Table 2), the age group 45-49 had the highest proportion (26.2%), followed by the age group 40-44 (25.6%) and 55-59 (24.4%).

![Figure 2. Proportion of women registered with Cervical Screening Programme among female population by age group as at 31 December 2017](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>25 - 29</th>
<th>30 - 34</th>
<th>35 - 39</th>
<th>40 - 44</th>
<th>45 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 54</th>
<th>55 - 59</th>
<th>60 - 64</th>
<th>Overall (25 - 64)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of registered women</td>
<td>12 116</td>
<td>44 984</td>
<td>77 904</td>
<td>86 238</td>
<td>86 602</td>
<td>81 756</td>
<td>78 271</td>
<td>58 508</td>
<td>526 379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female population ('000)</td>
<td>275.5</td>
<td>341.2</td>
<td>351.8</td>
<td>337.5</td>
<td>330.9</td>
<td>344.4</td>
<td>320.7</td>
<td>264.6</td>
<td>2 566.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes:
1. Number of women registered with CSP refers to the number of approved accounts in the CSIS, excluding those registered deaths, women aged below 25 and aged 65 or above as at 31 December 2017.
2. The female population figures refer to the mid-year population estimates released by the Census and Statistics Department in February 2018.
3. **Number of cervical cytology tests recorded among registered women**

Among women who have registered with CSP, there were 1,573,094 cervical cytology tests recorded in CSIS as at 31 December 2017. There were 108,201 cervical cytology test results recorded in 2017 (Figure 3).

![Figure 3. Number of cervical cytology tests recorded among registered women in 2004 - 2017 by year of test report (Total = 1,573,094)](image)

Registrants in the age group 40-44 had the highest number of cervical cytology tests recorded, that was 259,710 (16.5%), followed by the age groups 35-39 and 45-49 with 253,510 (16.1%) and 244,397 (15.5%) smear results recorded respectively (Figure 4 and Table 3).

![Figure 4. Number of cervical cytology tests recorded among registered women by age group as at 31 December 2017 (Total = 1,573,094)](image)

**Table 3. Number of cervical cytology tests recorded among registered women by age group as at 31 December 2017 (Total = 1,573,094)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>&lt; 25</th>
<th>25 - 29</th>
<th>30 - 34</th>
<th>35 - 39</th>
<th>40 - 44</th>
<th>45 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 54</th>
<th>55 - 59</th>
<th>60 - 64</th>
<th>&gt;= 65</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of tests</td>
<td>15,973</td>
<td>109,087</td>
<td>216,777</td>
<td>253,510</td>
<td>259,710</td>
<td>244,397</td>
<td>215,649</td>
<td>156,752</td>
<td>87,712</td>
<td>13,527</td>
<td>1,573,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes:
1. Age of the registered women is calculated from the date of test report.
2. Percentages may not add up to 100.0% due to rounding.
4. Categorisation of the cervical smear results first recorded

For the cervical cytology tests first recorded among registered women from 2004 to 2017, the proportions of the results categorised according to the Bethesda System are shown in Figure 5. In the past fourteen years, 92.9% of smear results first recorded were “negative for intraepithelial lesion or malignancy”, while 6.3% were abnormal. Among the 36,917 abnormal smears first recorded, 60.6% were “Atypical Squamous Cells of Undetermined Significance” (ASCUS).

Figure 5. Categorisation of cervical cytology tests first recorded among registered women in 2004 - 2017 (No. of tests = 583,155)

Footnotes:
1. Percentages may not add up to 100.0% due to rounding.
2. Year of cervical test is defined as the year of test report.